

# THE RHUMB LINE

**SEPT 1997** 

# Maine Maritime Museum

"Our Mission is to collect, preserve and interpret materials relating to the maritime history of Maine and to promote an understanding and appreciation thereof."



Elizabeth Noyce's bequest of a large ship portrait by Joseph B. Smith marks the first time Smith's work has appeared at the Museum. He operated a commercial painting studio in Brooklyn, New York which flourished until sometime in the 1860s. This large portrait, made about 1852, shows the ship Richard Morse about to cross paths with her fleetmate, Jane Parker. Both vessels were built for the Morse interests in Phippsburg, Maine. Photo by Bill King

A visitor cannot enter a gallery in the Maritime History Building without coming across a painting which owes its presence to the philanthropy of the late Elizabeth Noyce. Her well-considered collecting and giving of marine art both widened and deepened the fine and genre art collections of this and other Maine museums

When she died, in the fall of 1996, nine paintings from her extensive personal collection were bequeathed to Maine Maritime Museum. Beginning September 20 these paintings will be featured in a new temporary exhibition, *A Maine Legacy*.

Some of the most prominent painters of the Maine seacoast are included, such as Stephen Etnier and George S. Wasson. Important ship-portraits by the likes of Joseph B. Smith and William H. Yorke will be shown, as well as watercolor paintings by prominent regional artists.

Other works, which constitute her lifetime gift, will be highlighted, most notably James E. Buttersworth's portrait of the Maine-built clipper ship *Warner* rounding Cape Horn; Charles Robert Patterson's portrayal of the clipper *Great Admiral* entering San Francisco Bay; and John Stobart's *The A.G. Ropes in New York Bay*.

The exhibition continues through February 8. From October 1 to January 4 the Portland Museum of Art will feature its own exhibition of Noyce Bequest paintings, A Legacy for Maine: Masterworks from the Collection of Elizabeth B. Noyce. The companion publication to their exhibition includes an essay by Curator Jessica Nicoll explaining the role of Maine Maritime Museum in the development of Mrs. Noyce's collecting and her philanthropic gifts of art to museums around Maine.

# FROM THE CHART TABLE



The brief, glorious Maine summer is fading and the privilege of autumn is making its nearness known by a few blazing trees amongst the green and the faint stirrings of northerly breezes, absent for a while. In less than ninety days, islands of ice will begin scouring the waterfront. By then we will have rigged for winter and will be preparing for another busy season next year.

This summer, the weather in the northeast was kind to places that attract vacationing travelers if not to farmers and gardeners. Our season was packed as usual with

demonstrations, events and with visiting vessels. In addition to our old friend the Grand Banks schooner *Sherman Zwicker*, we were visited by the Coast Guard cutter *Monomoy* and by the replica of John Cabot's *Matthew*, the latter made possible by member Lewis Cabot and his colleagues at Southworth International Group, Inc. The *Matthew* visit was the focal point of much festivity, including a concert by the United States Navy Show Band.

Our temporary exhibition A Schooner Life, celebrating the centennial of the opening of the Percy & Small Shipyard and the great schooners is highly successful and I commend it to you if you haven't yet had the chance to see it. Librarian Nathan Lipfert has created a wonderful small exhibit in the Peterson Gallery about the derivation of the modern international code of signal flags. Bob Webb is just now installing a celebratory exhibition dedicated to the memory of Betty Noyce's contributions to the Museum and to maritime history. And, as indicated elsewhere in this newsletter, tugboats are coming to the Crooker Gallery and to the Kennebec in the form of our next major temporary exhibition on towing and tugboats along the Maine coast & rivers. Opening will be this coming spring.

Look for the fall lecture series schedule in these pages. Come see us. We look forward to seeing you here.



## DISCOVERY BOATBUILDING PROGRAM

Maine Maritime Museum in collaboration with South Bristol Elementary School is once again providing a unique opportunity for its eighth grade students to learn the art of boatbuilding. This hands-on, educational program, now in its third year, makes an invaluable connection between the Museum and the South Bristol community.

During the 1997-98 school year ten eighth-grade students, starting in early September, will visit the Museum every Friday with the goal of building two small skiffs by the middle of June. The program teaches the students all phases of boat construction including safe and proper handling of equipment and tools. Each student begins by learning to make butt- lap- mortise and tenon- and scarf joints. Students put their new skills to work by constructing their own tool boxes. By Christmas they are ready to begin making their half model and try their hand at lofting. The actual construction of the skiffs begins the first week in January. The step by step process starts by making forms of plywood and attaching the stem, sternpost, sides and bottom. Next, the skiffs are turned over and the rub rails, inwhales, ribs, seat risers and seats are installed. The final leg of the construction begins in May, as the boats are sanded, painted and varnished. If all goes well, the boats will be launched with great fanfare at South Bristol's Bittersweet Landing Boat Yard the second week in June.

This year's class includes South Bristol's Alden Colby, Matt Eugley, George Ganson, Leah Plummer, Shane Parker-Kast, Chelsea Warner, Hannah Farrin, Tommy Carrothers, Sean Rendall and M. J. Niles.

### BEHIND THE SCENES AT BIW

On October 25, Maine Maritime Museum, in cooperation with Bath Iron Works and the Bath Area Bed and Breakfast Association, will offer a five hour look at the history of shipbuilding and Bath Iron Works, culminating with a guided tour of the Iron Works. The itinerary is as follows:



- 10:00 a.m. Coffee and muffins at the Museum
- 10:30 a.m. -Tour of the Percy & Small shipyard. View a BIW video which includes a brief history of the Arleigh Burke Aegis class destroyer and the major steps in their construction.
- 12:00 p.m.- Box lunch in the Museum's Mold Loft.
- 12:45 p.m.- Board Linekin II for trip up-river.
- 1:30 p.m. Arrive at BIW for a guided tour.
- 3:00 p.m Arrive back at the Museum for questions, answers and self-guided gallery tour.

Cost is \$30.00 for members and \$35.00 for non-members. Make reservations soon - this program will likely sell out quickly. Call 443-1316 for more information or to make your reservation.

### Fall Lecture Series

October 14th- Warren Riess, Maritime Archaeologist November 11th- Ann Grimes-Rand curator at the USS River Expedition and the Boon Island shipwreck.

October 21st- Bill Quinn will take us on a journey through one hundred years of maritime disasters along the Maine coast. Shipwrecks were a common occurrence and Mr. Quinn will take us to the scene and recount the details as gleaned from newspapers, magazines and official reports, as well as interviews with witnesses.

October 28th- Avery Stone of Belfast, Maine will inspire us with recollections of bygone days including yachting off Isleboro at the turn of the century, and personal experiences such as encountering a German submarine while schooning along the Maine coast during the second World War.

with the University of Maine, will present a slide and Constitution Museum will present a Veterans Day video tour of Maine history beneath the waves tribute to "Old Ironsides"- the fruitful results of its including; the most recent news on the Penobscot remarkable restoration and most recently its celebrated sailing on the 200th anniversary of her commissioning.

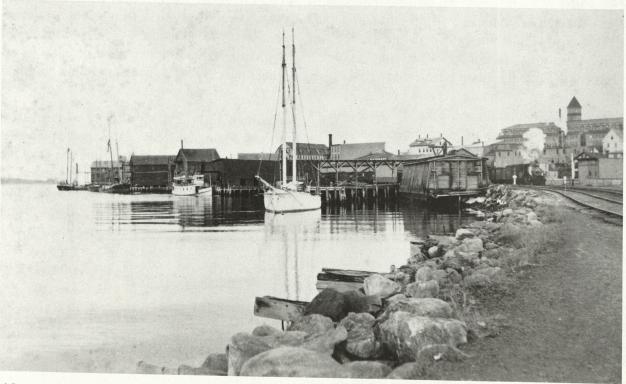
> November 18th- Mathew Edney of the University of Southern Maine OSHER Map Library will take us on a cartographic adventure chronicling the land the Native Americans named Norumbega at the time of European discovery, which later became charted as New France, New Belgium and, finally, New England. The key step in the creation of New England was achieved by 17thcentury regional maps which sought to strengthen English claims by simply imposing English place names on the landscape.

Admission is \$5 for members and \$6 for non-members. Series tickets are available for \$22 for members and \$27 for non-members. All lectures will take place on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM in Sewall Hall at Maine Maritime Museum. Reservations are reccommended and can be made by calling the Museum at 443-1316.

### Maritime Puzzler

We need your help identifying these images from the Museum's archive. **Below:** The original of the image is an albumen print, so it dates from the 1850-1895 period. Judging from the vessels in the picture, it is likely to be dated in the second half of that range. None of the vessels is identified. The place has a Cape Cod look to it, but it could be many places. Where is it, and what is the cataclysmic event that has seemingly driven these schooners ashore?





**Above:** This print seems to be on gelatin printing-out paper, dating the image to the 1885-1920 period. This one has a Maine look to it, but how many harbors in Maine have a big mill like the one at the right, looming right over the wharves? Where was this picture taken, and when?

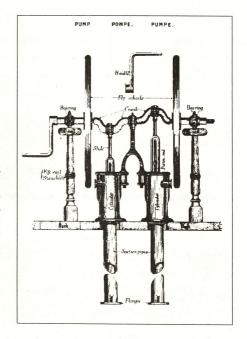
### New in the Museum Store



Fleet Identification at a Glance

This handy, two-sided laminated 8 1/2 x 11" card lists a wealth of information on all of the US Navy's vessels, including name, number, weaponry, crew, homeport, builder, vessel

First published in 1885, and popular as a reference work ever since, Captain Paasch's marine dictionary is both a comprehensive encyclopedia and an unparalleled introduction for those interested in steam and sailing ships, life aboard and engineering. All terms are in English, French and German and it is complete with appendices and a full tri-lingual index. This must-have book is illustrated with 85 faithfully reproduced original steel engravings. \$25.00



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"On many fine steamships,
this type of coffee measurer
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class coffee blend, often a closely
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Whether completely accurate or not you will enjoy this unique gift handmade in wood, brass and silver plate.

#### Other items of interest...

- a full line of brass nautical items including ship's bells, hour glasses, compasses, dividers
- a new selection of pond models
- hand-painted Anne Kilham oval boxes
- water colors and prints by David Clough
- "Schooners -Its Design and Development from 1600 to the Present" by David R. MacGregor
- ◆ "Black Jacks: African American Seaman in the Age of Sail" by W. Jeffery Bolster

# We'll Remember, February 15th

Remember the *Maine*? We do. One hundred years later to the day, on Sunday, February 15th, we will open our new exhibition *We Remember* to commemorate the explosion and sinking of the American battleship *Maine* at Havana, Cuba, February 15, 1898.

No one has ever conclusively determined the cause of the blast, but it served as the catalyst that brought the United States to war with Spain. When the Spanish-American War was over, Spain had been driven out of Cuba, and the United States acquired the Philippine Islands.

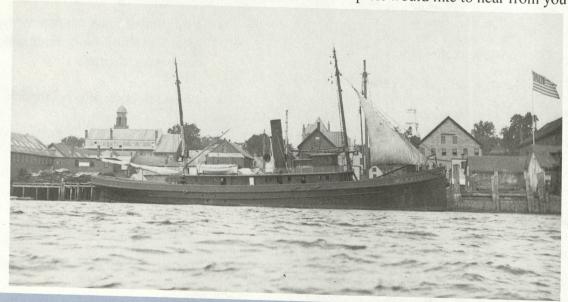
The exhibition will focus on the ship herself. Artifacts belonging to the *Maine*, and photographs taken both before and after the explosion, will be included, as well as a wide variety of souvenir items - plates, pitchers, lithographic prints, embroidery and lapel pins, even advertising logos - that encouraged the war and paid homage to the men from Maine and elsewhere who were lost in the ship.

Curator Robert Webb says it may not be too late to have your prized *Maine* relic included in the exhibition. If you have a piece of this battleship's history that you think might be suitable, please contact him at (207)443-1316 before October 15th.

## **TUGBOATS**

The tugboats are coming! The Museum announces 1998 as its *Year of the Tugboat*. Many events are planned, including a Crooker Gallery exhibition opening in April, visiting vessels, a towing symposium, a rendezvous of historic and modern tugboats, as well as adult and children's lectures and special programming about towing in New England.

If you have artifacts, photographs or other exhibitable materials relating to tugboats in Maine or New Hampshire, Curator Robert Webb and Library Director Nathan Lipfert would like to hear from you.



The photograph collections of the Museum contain this rare image of the ocean-going tug *C.W. Morse* of Bath with its headsail set. The roof of the Patten Free Library may be seen just above the tug's wheelhouse. Ocean-going tugboats of this period often carried a full set of sails at sea, for steadying and presumably for auxiliary propulsion. The Summer 1998 tugboat exhibition will include a W.P. Stubbs oil painting of the *C.W. Morse*.

# MAINE MARTIME MUSEUM AND TILBURY HOUSE, PUBLISHERS Announce the Forthcoming Publication of

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, a new firm was established in Bath, Maine, at a time when established yards in the City of Ships were turning to steel construction. In spite of a narrowing window of opportunity, Percy & Small would set unrivaled records for wooden shipbuilding and ship management, launching 22 giant five- and six-masted schooners (along with 16 four-masters) in two decades, developing specialized shipbuilding techniques that pushed the wooden hull to its limits, and demonstrating an unusual knack for making money as managing owners of a large fleet of schooners.

Here's a close look at coastal shipping and plankon-frame shipbuilding at its zenith, detailed in a series of beautifully executed fold-out construction drawings by Doug Lee and in dozens of black-andwhite photographs, many never before published. Maritime enthusiasts and modelmakers will find a

wealth of information here.

Ralph L. Snow, former director of the Maine Maritime Museum and the Maritime Museum

# A SHIPYARD IN MAINE Percy & Small and the Great Schooners Ralph Linwood Snow Captain Douglas K. Lee

Association of San Diego, is the author of the critically acclaimed *Bath Iron Works: The First Hundred Years* and co-author (with Kenneth R. Martin) of *Maine Odyssey: Good Times and Hard Times in Bath, 1936–1986* and *The Pattens of Bath: A Seagoing Dynasty.* Captain Douglas K. Lee, schooner captain, schooner designer, and schooner builder, is co-researcher and technical contributor. For over 25 years, Lee and his wife, Captain Linda Lee, have been researching the design and construction details of P&S schooners from extant records, photographs, articles, and interviews.

### Available October, 1997 • Place Advance Orders Now

Hardcover, \$49.95 8½ x 11, 348 pages Color and B&W Illustrations Fold-Out Construction Drawings ISBN 0-88448-193-X Send orders to: Maine Maritime Museum, Dept. P&S 243 Washington Street Bath, ME 04530

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### **New Acquisition**



A model of a foreign-built motor yacht might not permanent basis, as a recent gift from Douglas W. seem to fit the mission of the Museum of collecting, Hawes (97.67). intepreting and preserving the maritime history of Maine. But this exquisite model of the Italian-built yacht Florin was made to exacting specifications by our own John Gardner, modeler extraordinaire of Castine, Maine. John even visited a shipyard in Europe where he took pictures of the boat for the purpose of modeling it, under a commission from a gentleman in New York City.

John has chosen to portray this sumptuous yacht not in the context of St. Tropez or some other Mediterranean sunny spot, but rather amongst the litter of a boatyard. Astern and alongside the vessel are the signs of preventative maintenance; scaffolding and ladders, a propeller on a cart and even a chainlink fence in the background.

This model was featured in our exhibition "More By Eye Than By Measure": The Art of John P. Gardner (October 1994 - April 1995), and we're extremely pleased that it has sailed back to the Kennebec on a

### DON'T LET US SET SAIL WITHOUT YOU

Support MMM By Becoming a Member

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> Please send us your check or call our membership department to make your pledge: (207)443-1316

### HALF MODELING WORKSHOP



October 20 - 25, Will West, MMM's boat shop manager, will present a basic half modeling class from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. (Mon.- Fri.) and 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday. The class will explore the history and traditional uses of half-models and the building techniques used in their construction.

The workshop will cover the use of lofting and lines drawing as well as different types of construction and tools. Participants will build a Muscongus Bay Sloop by building lifts that are taken from a set of plans. Workshop fee will cover the cost of the lines, study information and all building

materials. Participants will need to provide their own tools from a list provided. Cost for the workshop is \$175 for non-members and \$150 for members. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (207)443-1316.

# WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS JUNE - Aug 1997

Edward F. Feibel

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# Down to the Seas of Scotland Skye and the Highlands September 17-26, 1998



Day 1 - Thursday: Depart Boston this evening aboard British Ariways regularly scheduled overnight flight across the Atlantic.

Day 2 - Friday: A morning arrival at London Heathrow and transfer to the short flight for Edinburgh. You'll be met by your courier on arrival and accompanied to our Edinburgh hotel. This afternoon, your courier will provide an introduction to the city and our Scottish adventure. This evening a dinner party brings the group together.

Day 3 - Saturday: Panoramic sightseeing of Edinburgh this morning from the Georgian "New Town" to the fabled cobbled streets of the Royal Mile: Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles Cathedral and the Palace of Holyrood. The afternoon is free for you to explore the city. Perhaps wander the Princes Street Gardens, visit the Royal Academy or the **Museum of Scottish Antiquities**, or climb Calton Hill for the dramatic views of Arthur's Seat and the Firth of Forth. Tonight, a ceilidh of traditional Scottish music, dance and merriment.

Day 4 - Sunday: We board our touring coach this morning for the journey north. Crossing the historic Forth Bridge the route leads through Perth and into the Grampian Mountains. We travel through Pitlochry and Aviemore before an afternoon arrival in Inverness - "Capital of the Highlands."

Day 5 - Monday: This morning's excursion is the nearby battlefield of Culloden Moor. Here in 1745, the Jocobite highland clans were defeated by the Hanoverian army. This afternoon features a cruise up the Caledonian Canal to the black, mysterious waters of Loch Ness. This evening is free for you to sample a local restaurant or search out the music and dance of the Highlands.

Day 6 - Tuesday: Today's journey takes us across the Western Highlands of Scotland. Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh is one of the great scenic rail journeys of

the world. Through spectacular mountains, deep glens and crystal highland waters, past herds of red deer the line runs down to the Kyle of Lochalsh. Then, we cross "over the sea to Sky."

Day 7 - Wednesday: Our excursion today takes a panoramic sweep of northwest Skye and another visual feast. Highlights include a visit to Dunvegan Castle, the oldest inhabited castle in Britain, home of the Chiefs of MacLeod for over 800 years. We also visit the Talisker Whisky Distillery, where the "water of life" is produced on the shore of Loch Harport.

Day 8 - Thursday: Leaving Portree this morning, we drive across southwest Skye to Armadale for the ferry to Mallaig. Here we continue by coach for the winding, mountainous journey south to Fort William, touring center of the highlands. We'll visit Neptune's Staircase, a tight sequence of eight licks which raise the Caledonian Canal a total of 64 feet! There will be time to explore Fort William's history at the West Highland Museum, visit the Ben Nevis Centre or the Scottish Craft Exhibition.

Day 9 - Friday: South this morning through the haunting valley of Glencoe, site of the massacre of the MacDonald clan in 1692, across the bleakness of Rannoch Moor and along the shore of Loch Lomond for an afternoon arrival in Glasgow. The group will visit the Clydesbank Museum which chronicles the history of the Clydesbank shipyards. This evening the group gathers again for a farewell dinner party.

Day 10 - Saturday: The reluctant farewell to Scotland. Flights from Glasgow to London, connect with our transatlantic British Airways for the return home.

Lord Addison Travel, LTD

## General Information

# Registration



enthusiastic specialists guide will introduce the culture will be exploring.

itineraries are always paced for comfort, to avoid the feeling of person cancellation fee. being herded. If you would rather skip sightseeing for a morning of discoveries, do feel free! The trip features easy This group tour includes trip cancellation insurance. afternoon tea or a couple of noggins at a local pub.

Your traveling party will be Please complete the form below, enclose a \$250 deposit per guided by one of Lord Addison's person and send it to the Museum. The balance of your fees in will be billed as follows: half the balance upon receipt of your European travel. In addition to deposit and acceptance of your registration. The remaining managing travel details, your balance will be billed and payable 45 days prior to departure.

and history of the cities that we If you withdraw up to 45 days before the departure date, you will receive a refund of all payments less the \$250 per person deposit. If you withdraw less than 45 days before the departure Lord Addison's small-group date, you will receive a refund for all payments less a \$500 per

journeys with reasonable departure times, and arrival at our Cancellation for legitimate covered reasons results in refunds, hand-picked hotels with time to relax before dinner. There will including the \$500 cancellation fees. This insurance comes be plenty of free time for independent adventures, shopping, into force at the time of registration. Details will be sent at that time. If the trip is canceled by the Museum or Lord Addison, a refund will be mailed within 28 days.

### TRIP FEES

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Program costs on this first-class itinerary are as inclusive as it The day by day itinerary is described in as much detail as fees are included, as are customs fees and travel insurance. considerations. One evening in Inverness, however, does not include dinner, so you can stroll among the bustling crowds or sample one of the We reserve the right to make changes in the itinerary sequence,

Program fees listed below are for Museum members only, per grounds for withdrawal with full refund. person, double occupancy. Non-members should add an additional \$100. There is a single supplement of \$350, and Trip fees do not include lunches, excess baggage, charges and

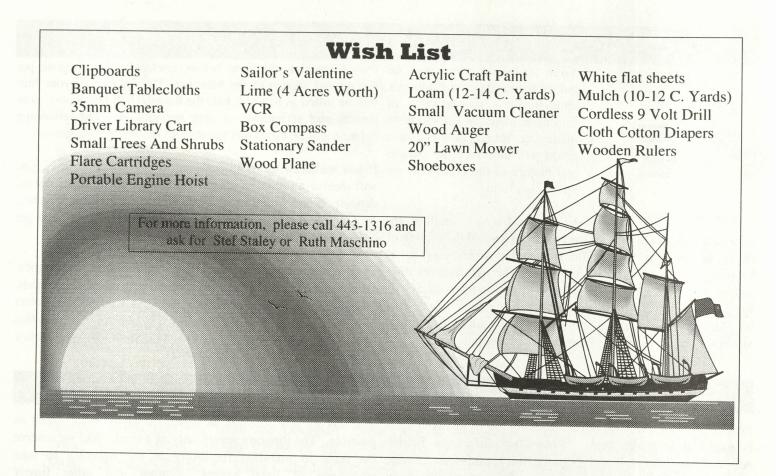
Boston/New York \$2,950 Other departure cities are available.

is practical to make them. Round-trip airfare on British possible. The itinerary serves only as a model and we reserve Airways, hotels of style and elegance, full breakfasts, and table the right to maintain flexibility in the itinerary to take d'hôte dinners are only the beginning. Theater and admission advantage of local events, weather and other timely

> and substitute airlines, hotels, excursions, activities or departure dates as may be required. Such changes are not

> tips to guides and touring bus drivers, expenses incurred during free time and transportation to and from participant's home to the airport.

Reserve your space by January 1 and save	Maine Maritime Museum 243 Washington St.	I will be sharing a room with	
\$100	Bath, ME 04530 (207)443-1316	☐ I am registering with a single supplement. ☐ Please assign me a roommate: ☐ non-smoking ☐ smoking	
NameAddress		Where possible, we will arrange for pre-assigned seating on your flight(s). Please in the	
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